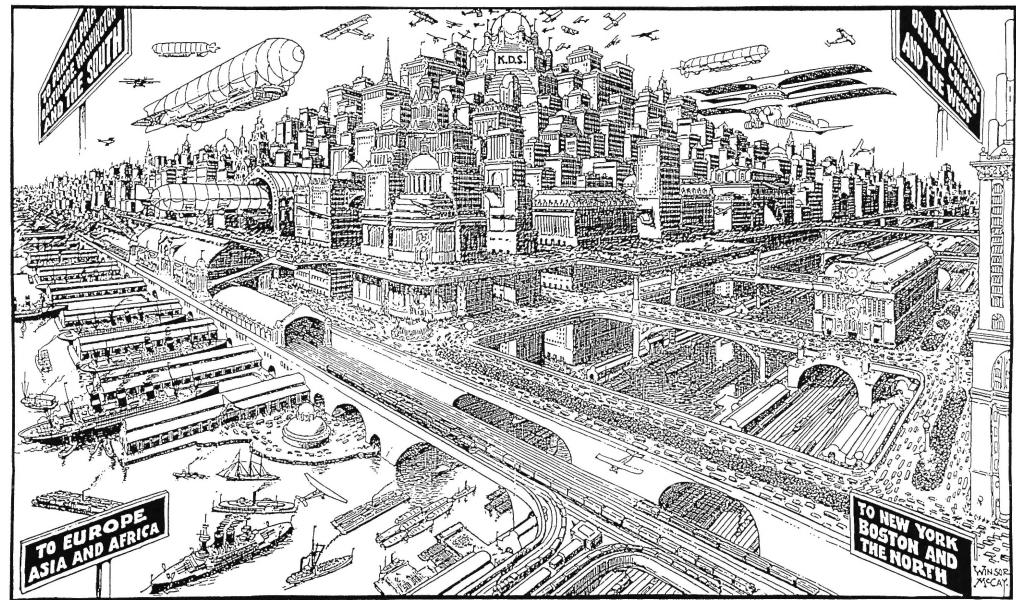
# NEWARK THE LAND AND THE VISION



Drawing by Winsor McCay, which first appeared in 1928 in an article by Mayor Thomas Lynch Raymond "Newark 58 Years from Today" - when Newark would be 150 years old from the year of its incorporation

#### **Instant Facts**

Newark, 24 square miles, third oldest major city in America; smallest in land area of any major American city; founded in 1666, incorporated in 1836; Mayor-Council form of government; population in 1990, 275,221; largest city in NJ; 5th highest density of population in American cities; core of 4-county consolidated metro-statistical area - 1.9 million people, 17th largest in the United States; 5 colleges and universities: Rutgers-Newark, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Essex County College, University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ, Seton Hall Law School; NJ State Operated School District includes 60 elementary schools, 15 high schools, 2 middle schools, and 8 special schools; 33 private and parochial schools; The Newark Public Library, 1.4 million volumes, 8 branches, 2 storefront libraries; The Newark Museum founded in 1909 with 66 galleries, 350,000 visitors annually; Symphony Hall seats 2900; Newark Boys Chorus; NJ Historical Society relocated to old Essex Club; NJ Performing Arts Center to open October 1997; labor force approximately 140,000; means of employment: manufacturing, retail stores, banking and insurance, health services, transportation, higher education; largest employers: University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ, Prudential, Continental Airlines, AT&T, Western Electric, Public Service, and Rutgers University; spendable income after taxes in excess of \$2 billion yearly; household income \$20,447; total assessed valuation for taxable properties \$907,947,800; tax rate: 21.61 per \$100 of assessed value; exempted, untaxable properties: \$3,275,755,995; 1995 budget \$520,809,034; bank deposits excess of \$20 billion 1993; 102,473 housing units: 68.7% rented, 20.5% owned, 126 housing projects with 13,000 apartments, 30,000 live in public housing; 364 miles of paved streets; 441 intersections; 394 miles of sewers; 527 miles of water mains, 4,700 hydrants; 16,000 street lights; 35,000 shade trees; Pequannock Watershed, owned by City of Newark located in Morris, Passaic and Sussex counties, supplies 1

#### Geography: Latitude 40° 44' - Longitude 74° 11' - Elevation from 3 to 256 feet

Newark is located on the Passaic River in eastern Essex County with a doorway to the world through Port Newark and Newark Bay. Its terrain is generally flat with marshlands found mostly in the eastern section, and land which gradually sweeps upward as you travel west and north. To the west is the area of old Newark Township with its red sandstone ridges of both First and Second Mountains which dominate Essex County. The highest points in town are along King Blvd. (old High Street) and along the northern border with Belleville. The Ironbound section, the area east of Newark's Pennsylvania Station, was generally marshy and home of the great white cedar in earlier days. In the 19th century important brownstone quarries were located along or just north of Bloomfield Avenue, and were important commercial enterprises as late as the 1860s. Newark's major river is the Passaic, which forms its eastern boundary with Hudson County. 18th century accounts tell of fishermen who attested to its marvelous supply of fish, especially shad. But the coming of heavy industry, and the extreme pollution which followed, limited its earlier use for fishing and water supply. By the Civil War both sail and steamboats dominated the river, but it remained a recreational boating facility until well into the present century. Repeated efforts have been made to address pollution problems with varying degrees of success, and recently a riverfront park, in honor of former Congressman Joseph G. Minish, has been planned to complement the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. Newark's other waterway is Second River, which is the city's northern boundary. With the advance of 20th century construction, picturesque streams and waterways such as Wheeler's Creek, Meadow Brook, and Two Mile Creek have been lost from view, as have been Silver Lake and Paterson's Pond; however, Weequahic Lake and the water resources in Branch Brook Park, both in the Essex County Park system, remain major watercourse recreational facilities.

## A General History of Newark

While today Newark appears to be an average size American city with a population hovering around 270,000 in the 1990 census, it has been a major player in America's history for a good 200 of its more than 300 years. Looking at a map of the northeastern United States, Newark might appear as a suburb of the nation's largest industrial, commercial, and residential complex. It is not. Rather, it is a sturdy city which began in the 17th century and has weathered every storm to come along in the American experience. Indeed, Newark, America's third oldest major city, in many ways reflects America itself with all of its manifestations - a city which has prospered and suffered, and yet come back again because there is a reason for its existence. It's a good place to make money for business and industry; it's become the transportation hub for millions of travelers; it's becoming a major higher educational center; and its cultural assets including The Newark Public Library, The Newark Museum, New Jersey Historical Society, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Newark Boys Chorus, Newark Symphony Hall, WBGO-Jazz Radio, and the soon-to-be completed New Jersey Performing Arts Center combine to form a cultural facility of considerable significance.

In its first phase, Newark was a New England theocracy established by Puritans from Connecticut who wanted to found a city away from the New Haven colony for religious purposes. Up until the eve of the American Revolution it remained a little farm community with no more than a thousand inhabitants and a hundred buildings. But with the passing of British rule came the emergence of home or cottage industry, and its gradual emergence as a great industrial center on the eve of the American Civil War. Good transportation established by the 1830s, a modern form of government by 1836, and the influx of a creative and inventive people brought about an industrial miracle in the form of "modern industrial" Newark by the 1850s. Commercial Newark was soon to follow with the rise of banking, insurance, and all sorts of ancillary activities. By 1872 a great industrial exhibition was held in Washington Street to tell the world of Newark's achievements. By 1916, when the City took time to celebrate its 250th anniversary, the future seemed bright indeed. The twentieth century has been a period of boom and bust, and a time when much of Newark's future has been dictated by national, not local, trends. The robust economy of two world wars was countered by the lawlessness of Prohibition and near economic disaster of the Great Depression, and the national riots of the 1960s are still celebrated by the nationwide media as if they were instigated by Newark.

As the city's population has fallen, and many individuals have moved to the suburbs, some think of Newark only in terms of the "good old days". But the city continues to survive, and to many is beginning to prosper again even within the much too small confines of its 24 square miles. Indeed, imagine if Newark's colonial boundaries, which included old Newark township, still applied and how different a Newark of 2 million people would be.

Well, that is not going to happen in a state known for its adamant support of home rule, or in terms of a poster which appeared during economic hard times in the 1930s, "Newark Will See It Through," and that will indeed be possible in a city rich in history, filled with hard working people, and supported by many former residents and continuing friends.



Model. New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) opens October 17, 1997 on time and under budget. The model is on display at the Arts Center.

#### Newark - Forms of Government

Since its founding in 1666, Newark has had eight forms of government. In 1666 it was settled by Puritans from the New Haven Colony as a theocracy, and in 1713 it was awarded its charter by Queen Anne. In 1789 it was created the Township of Newark, and in 1833 it was governed by ward meetings. It was incorporated as the City of Newark in 1836 and received a new city charter in 1857. In 1917 it adopted the City Commission form of government, and in 1954 a Mayor-Council type of government was finally created under which it functions today with a strong mayor/strong council.

The modern City of Newark is organized into five wards (North, South, Central, East and West,) each with a population in excess of 50,000. Ward lines are based upon population, and are redrawn as population shifts demand. At the last realignment Newark's population was 275,221 according to the 1990 census and each ward in theory contains 55,044 residents. The Mayor is Sharpe James, 37th mayor of Newark, elected in 1986 and reelected to a third term in 1994. The Municipal Council's nine members, one elected from each of the five wards and four who serve at large, are Council President Donald Bradley and Councilmen George Branch, Anthony R. Carrino, Gayle H. Chaneyfield, Mildred C. Crump, Henry Martinez, Luis Quintano, Ronald Rice and Donald Tucker.

## Industrial and Commercial Newark

For more than a century Newark was one of America's most important industrial cities. Indeed, many considered Newark as one of the handful of cities in which the American industrial revolution occurred. The colonial era furniture makers and silversmiths gave way to some of the country's heaviest manufacturing complexes by the time of the Civil War. Indeed, if a product was manufactured in America, it was probably made in Newark. This romance with industry was fired by the visit of Alexander Hamilton prior to the establishment of Paterson, NJ, America's first planned industrial town. A check of industrial directories of the period shows us that more than a thousand types of industries prospered here, and that many factories employed hundreds if not thousands of workers making beer, jewelry, leather, paint, varnish, furniture, smelting of precious metals, and every conceivable type of mechanical device for all of American industry. The Great Depression destroyed much of Newark's industrial base, and according to John T. Cunningham, hundreds of factories closed. But today, directories indicate that nearly five hundred industrial plants form the city's industrial base.

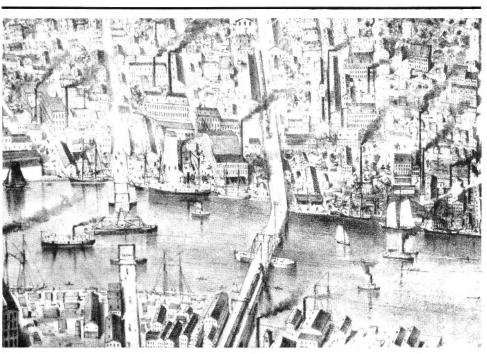
In 1996 there were 103 companies with sales of excess of a million, 40 that sold between 5 and 9 million dollars, 37 companies with sales between 10 and 24 million, 13 companies with sales between 25 and 49 million, 4 companies with sales ranging between 50 and 99 million, and one company with sales over 500 million. Big brand names which continue to carry Newark's name with them around the state, or throughout the nation include Anheuser-Busch, Shamrock Technology, Clinton Milk, Shofar/Kosher Foods, Cookson Pigments, Newark Boxboard, Seton (Leather), Sherwin Williams, Benjamin Moore, Krementz and Co., Troy Chemical, Bell Containers, to mention a few. Commercial Newark continues with names such as the Prudential Insurance Company and Mutual Benefit, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and Newark's largest employer, Continental Airlines.

## Newark's Historic Landmarks

Two Newark preservation agencies watch over Newark's architectural treasures. The Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee, which has added dozens of buildings to the state and national register of historical places and is a volunteer agency. The other agency is the Newark Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission, which has legal power to protect a building from misuse, incorrect alterations, additions, and demolition, and operates as a legal entity. Under the care of these two agencies buildings and districts have been added to the state and national register, attention has been called to the importance of specific buildings, and attention has been focused upon endangered sites. At the present time there are more than sixty historic buildings and several districts in Newark.

## The Famous - Born, Associated with, or Who Visited Newark

In its more than 330 years, Newark has played host to all types of personalities. The Lenni Lenape who fished and hunted before the coming of the Connecticut Puritans traded away their lands in the early 17th century. Among the more famous people born in Newark, whom many of us would recognize today, are John Amos, actor and comedian; Vivian Blaine, singer and comedian; Jim Bouton, baseball star and media specialist; William Brennan, U.S. Supreme Court justice; Aaron Burr Jr., vice president of the United States; Stephen Burrows, fashion designer; Rick Cerone, New York Yankee star; Stephen Crane, author of *The Red Badge of Courage*; motion picture director Brian de Palma; Connie Francis, singer and entertainer; Gloria Gaynor, pop singer; Whitney Houston, popular singer, and her mother Cissy Houston, gospel singer; Jerry Lewis, actor and comedian; Mort Lindsey, actor and television personality; Nick Massi, singer and musician; Malcolm McGregor, silent film star; the Ritz Brothers, Al, Harry and Jimmy, comedians; Congressman Peter Rodino; leading American author Philip Roth; writer, producer, and director at MGM, Dore Schary; Wayne Shorter, jazz musician; Paul



Lithograph. Mid-19th century Newark, the center of New Jersey's industrial, transportation and commercial empire, with bridges over the Passaic River.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday night, October 4th
Drive, take the bus,
New Jersey Transit, AMTRAK or PATH to
meet Charles Cummings at 7:00 p.m. in front
of Newark's Penn Station. Don't be late for
an evening walk, a ride and a musical surprise.
Back before midnight.



Sunday afternoon, November 2nd

Meet the sculptor Anneta Duveen, at 1:30 p.m. at the Robert Kennedy memorial in front of the New York State Supreme Court building, Borough Hall, Brooklyn, on the 25th dedication anniversary. Ms. Duveen will describe how she created the sculpture, which has carved on its base: Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation. RFK

Then, on to MetroTech, The Commons, old Brooklyn Heights, ending with the glorious skyline view of Manhattan Island

Saturday, November 8th and Sunday, November 9th

Volunteers for the Vale of Cashmere, from noon until 3 p.m., to weed, sweep, clean this beautiful garden in Prospect Park near the Grand Army Plaza (where a scene in Sophie's Choice was filmed). Bring work gloves, garden tools and a happy heart.

Sunday, November 16th \*

Join Bill Novak at 1:30 p.m. on another autumn stroll through Green-Wood: last year in the northwestern sector, this year in the southwestern. Take the BMT 4th Avenue line to the 25th Street station in Brooklyn, then walk up to the great 5th Avenue gates to see "The first permanent example of the picturesque in New York . . . Brooklyn's Green-Wood Cemetery, laid out on the Gowanus Hills in 1839 by David B. Douglass. The model was Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts, dating from 1831, and first of the 'garden of graves' indigenous to America. The cemetery was looked on as a pleasure ground; paying a visit to it on Sunday afternoon became part of the city's ritual." *Central Park, a History and a Guide* by Henry Hope Reed and Sophia Duckworth, 1967, (page 13).

For information about the tours or joining the Friends, call Bill (718) 622-2647. \$1 contribution on each tour for tree care in our historic parks and restoration of the Vale of Cashmere in Prospect Park. All tours, rain or shine.

Simon, singer and songwriter; Ruth St. Denis, dancer and choreographer; Frankie Valli, singer; jazz mega-star, Sarah Vaughan; Samuel Augustus Ward, composer of *America the Beautiful*; and actor Jack Warden. Others, associated with Newark, include Thomas Edison and a phalanx of great inventors, famed writer Amiri Baraka, basketball star Shaquille O'Neal, and dancer Savion Glover.

During its long history many important people have visited or lived in Newark, leaving a lasting impression on the city. They include General George Washington with repeated visits in Newark; Thomas Paine, who opened *The American Crisis* with the famous quotation "These are the times that try men's souls;" Charles Evans Hughes, who attended school in the Ironbound; Marquis de Lafayette in 1824 and President Andrew Jackson in 1832. In 1971 both Dutch Princess Beatrix and Mrs. Coretta Scott King were guests in Newark. In 1949 the Shah of Iran came for an official visit; and in 1995 Pope John Paul II called on Sacred Heart Cathedral and elevated it to the status of basilica.

#### The Newark Cultureplex

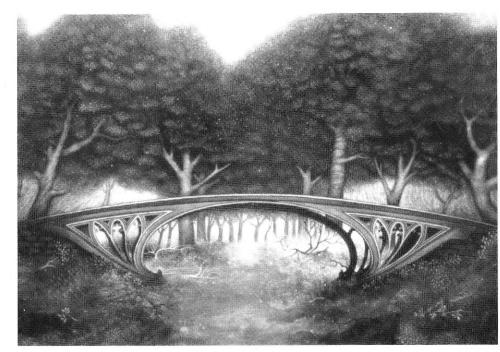
Newark as a cultural center would be the envy of any state or region, for within a mile's radius is the state's largest public library, museum, historical society, symphony orchestra, boys chorus school, a jazz matrix consisting of the world's largest jazz collection, a radio station devoted to jazz performances, and the site of a national jazz festival. These great institutions all next to College Town or University Heights with its tens of thousands of students, faculties and research facilities, and just down Broad Street stands government center with city hall, and of course three great Federal court houses and related Federal offices. Across town at Springfield and West Market is the massive governmental megacomplex including the county court house, hall of records, courts building, prison, parking center, and vocational/technology training center. But of all the great constituencies that make Newark vital it is perhaps the cultural agencies that are the most conspicuous.

At The Newark Public Library, a million and a quarter volume institution, a long tradition continues with finding the right information for the inquirer, and in addition to its nationally important collections in art, music, business, New Jersey information, United States and New Jersey documents and patents it has recently added a new and growing technology center, and increased emphasis upon exhibitions and coordinated public programming. The library renaissance has not been restricted to its central research center, but work continues on rebuilding all of the neighborhood branches by the end of the millennium, or as soon as money is available for that goal.

The recent twenty-five million dollar renovation of the internationally famous Newark Museum was completed upon its ninetieth birthday. Its world famous founder, and also librarian of The Newark Public Library, John Cotton Dana, was certainly smiling down from somewhere when a recent exhibition "Jeweler to the World; The Glitter and the Gold: Making and Marketing America's Jewelry, 1875-1929," opened to rave reviews this spring. For it was Dana's thought when creating The Newark Museum that it was to be a showcase for all. With this in mind the building was designed for the average person, built in the very heart of the downtown district as opposed to being a Greek temple isolated in a closed park and open to the elite, and while works of New Jerseyans and Americans tend to predominate, the museum also boasts that its Tibetan collection is one of the world's best and that its temple altar recently was dedicated by the Dali Lama. The original Louis Bamberger-funded museum building, the renovated garden, the Lyons Farms School House, the Carriage House/Firemen's Museum, the old YWCA building, the Ballantine House, and even the recently added parking lot were treated as a total unit within the megastructure complex designed by noted architect Michael Graves and orchestrated by Museum Director Emeritus Samuel Miller.

The New Jersey Historical Society was founded in 1845 in Trenton, but moved to Newark the following year and has been part of Newark's cultural scene ever since. While the Society has had several different homes here in town, its recent move to Park Place, former home of the old Essex Club, relocated it in the absolute heart of Newark's cultural activities. For as the state's oldest cultural agency, it continues to live up to its responsibilities "to discuss, procure, collect and preserve that which relates to the history of New Jersey, and to disseminate to its members and the general public knowledge concerning the same, without profit and solely for their benefit and advancement." To accomplish these mandates, the New Jersey Historical Society publishes information both for the historically curious and the scholarly, operates one of the nation's best historical research libraries and maintains an outstanding museum with a growing number of exhibitions. Part of the fame of its library rests upon the more than 200,000 manuscripts, 50,000 volumes, and over 1,000 rare maps in its collection. Indeed, the Society lives up to its goals to inform all about New Jersey.

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1922 in a series of musical mergers, this year celebrates its three-quarters of a century by opening its new season at the soon-to-be-completed New Jersey Performing Arts Center at Newark. As its name suggests, it is truly a state-wide organization with seven regional homes around the state, and has performed in all of New Jersey's twenty-one counties as well as having appeared in more than two hundred concert halls, churches, synagogues, auditoriums, sports arenas, and even open fields. For a good portion of its existence it also called Newark's grand old Symphony Hall (originally the Mosque) in south Broad Street home. Since its inception, the Orchestra has been directed by a dozen conductors and has employed women in a major role as "players, participants, and patrons." Its present famous maestro Zdenek Macal has brought the



SPECIAL CARD - GOTHIC ARCH

This special card is by Joseph LoGuirato, one of the artists of *Bridges of Central Park*. The card, in color, shows Central Park's original bridge No. 28, which dates from 1864. Box of 12 cards, \$10.

One of Vaux's most endearing inventions is the cast iron footbridge crossing the bridle path between the reservoir and tennis courts, roughly in line with West 94th Street. Its oval supports are ornamented with trefoils on the inner rim, an effect that might suggest Gothic cathedral windows except that the frame is swooning in languid collapsing curves. If Vaux had a satiric bent, he might have termed his new style 'Soft-boiled Gothic.' From "Calvert Vaux, Architect and Planner" by M.M. Graff published in the winter 1995 edition of A Little News.

**PUBLICATIONS** 

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orchestra to the nation's musical forefront building on the work of its previous directors such as Henry Lewis, Hugh Wolff, and Thomas Michalik. Prospects for the organization look bright with ticket sales nearly doubling over last year and with preparations for the new hall.

Walk down Broad Street and you will find a former neighbor of the New Jersey Symphony - the Newark Boys Chorus School. In fact, the Chorus was originally started by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra because it needed a musical group to accompany the holiday performance of the "Nutcracker." The Newark Boys Chorus School is now a fully independent organization which functions as "Newark's good will ambassadors" according to Mayor Sharpe James. Located at 1016 Broad Street, the school includes boys from grades four through eight, and presently has an enrollment of approximately seventy-five students. According to the school's administration "we strongly feel we offer inner city children a chance at survival by providing a very thorough and basic education which parents particularly need in an urban environment." Scholarships are available for qualified students following an academic examination and musical auditions. While many of the nearly seventy concerts given during the year are in the metropolitan area the Chorus has performed for the Pope in its Italian tour and has toured China, Japan and Australia as well.

Jazz occupies an important part of Newark's cultural spectrum. For years radio station WBGO has been part of the community's voice, and has become one of the nation's leading jazz exponents. In 1951 Marshall W. Stearns founded the Institute of Jazz Studies in his New York apartment, and in 1967 he moved it to Rutgers Newark University where it has grown into the world's largest jazz collection. First located in Bradley Hall on the Newark campus on King Boulevard, it is now housed in the university's Dana Library and contains 100,000 records from rare early cylinder to a variety of current materials including all types of recordings, books, and periodicals. Oral history has also become an important part of the collection as well as a series of popular and scholarly publications.

The Newark Jazz Festival, originally the Sarah Vaughan Jazz Festival, was established in 1991 by the director of the library who is also president of the festival, and by Joseph Rufalo. The Festival takes place every fall, includes performances of every type of jazz and is a significant event which includes dozens of free concerts in traditional halls as well as restaurants, clubs, Prudential Insurance Company, Library and Museum. It is awaited eagerly by many from both city as well as suburb.

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) opens in October 1997. With Washington's Kennedy Center, and New York's Lincoln Center, it will become the third major performing arts complex on the east coast. Not only the state's cultural mecca in popular and classical music and dance, it is predicted to have a major economic influence as well. One projection in The Star-Ledger estimated that by the year 2003, the \$180 million dollar investment will have generated more than one billion in profits throughout the general and immediate community. Established as a nonprofit corporation, it is located on a twelve-acre site, situated between Military Park and McCarter Highway, and is a combination of both public and private financing with major contributions coming from donors such as the Prudential, Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, AT&T of Bedminster, and Merck of Rahway, as well as from thousands of individuals who purchased individual bricks for one hundred dollars. Barton Myers Associates of Los Angeles and Wilson Woodridge of East Orange were the architects. Construction was by Turner Construction of Somerset. A new rapid transit system in the future will make access to the cultural facility easy, and new exit ramps from Rt. 280 are being completed.

Prudential Hall will seat 2,750 and the Victoria Theater will accommodate 500. Two restaurants will be located in the complex and a great domed lobby and Founders' Lounge will be available for public as well as private events. As the houselights dim and the curtain rises for the first time, NJ-PAC will join a group of prestigious cultural organizations that will contribute to a new, very dynamic 21st century American city.

## **Cultural Leaders**

The Newark Public Library: Dr. Alex Boyd, Director The Newark Museum: Mary Sue Sweeney Price, Director

The New Jersey Historical Society: Maryler Thome and Janel Rassweiler, Deputy Directors

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra: Lawrence Tamburri, Director; Zdenek Macal, Maestro The Newark Boys Chorus School: Elizabeth Del Tufo, Executive Director

The Newark Boys Chorus School: Elizabeth Del Radio station WBGO: Cephas Bowles, Director

The Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers: Dan Morgenstern, Director The Newark Jazz Festival: Dr. Alex Boyd, President of the Board

The Newark Jazz Festival: Dr. Alex Boyd, President of the Boz The New Jersey Performing Arts Center:

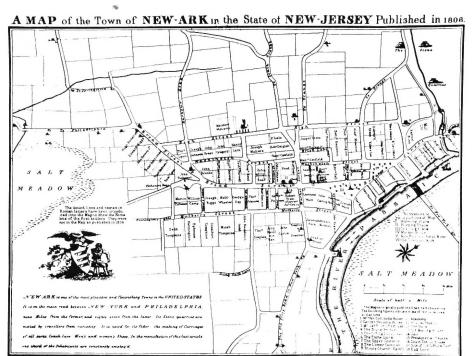
> Lawrence P. Goldman, President and C.E.O. Gail L. Thompson, Vice President, Design and Construction

Essay by Charles F. Cummings, Assistant Director for Statewide Outreach, The Newark Public Library. Mr. Cummings is also Newark City Historian. For additional information, contact New Jersey Information Center of The Newark Public Library at (973)733-7776 or at /www.npl.org. or contact the Newark City web site at /www.ci. newark.nj.us.

3)733-7776 or at /www.npl.org. or

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Address correction requested



"NEW-ARK is one of the most pleasant and flourishing towns in the UNITED STATES. It is on the main road between NEW-YORK and PHILADELPHIA. Nine Miles from the former, and eighty seven from the latter. Its Stone quarries are visited by travellers from curiosity. It is noted for its Cider - the making of Carriagesof all sorts, Coach-lace. Men's and woman's Shoes; In the manufacturer of this last article one third of the Inhabitants are constantly employ'd." Shoemaker map, 1806, by Charles Brasham, headmaster of Newark Academy, depicts the early industrialization of Newark. The shoemaker represents leather - Newark's oldest industry.

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